Delta Project and 4534 ha. under the Tank Irrigation.

Export of Textiles to Japan

335. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is vast scope of export of textiles to Japan;

(b) if so, what action has been taken in this regard;

(c) what are the names of the countries that are importing Indian textiles at present; and

(d) the quantum of foreign exchange earned as a result thereof during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government and various Textile Export Promotion Councils have taken several measures to increase textile exports to Japan. These include:—

(i) Visit of high level delegations to Japan to study the Japanese markets.

(ii) Participation in various fairs/ Exhibitions/Buyer Seller Meets in Japan.

(iii) Holding of seminars on potentials for export to Japan.

(iv) Visit of Japanese fashion technicians/designers to India to train Indian exporters etc.

(c) Almost all countries import textiles from India. The major importers include EEC member countries, USA, USSR, JAPAN, Bengladesh, Australia etc.

(d) The export of Textiles excluding jute and handicrafts from India during the last three years are as given below:—

Year	Value (in Rs. Crores)
1987-88	3814
1988-89	4398
1989-90	6500

(Sources: Textile Export Promotion Councils.)

Rise in the Prices of Steel

336. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government are aware that prices of all categories of steel have soared by an average of Rs. 1200/- per tonne during the last three months;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the rise in prices of steel;

(c) whether the price rise has affected the cost of construction of houses; if so, to what extent;

(d) whether this price rise has also affected the general price level; and

(e) if so, what steps have been taken to check the steel prices?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (e) Open market prices of iron and steel fluctuate on the basis of demand and supply from time to time and levels of JPC prices. There is no direct or indirect regulation on the prices of the output of the producers in the secondary sector; they fix their own prices. The JPC prices for main steel producers are adjusted by the Joint Plant Committee (JPC) from time to time to neutralise the increases in input costs and other levies. There is no such increase in the prices of steel items produced by the integrated steel plants in the last three months. There is, however, an open market premium which varies from place to place and time to time,

because of scarcity of supply relative to demand.

Irrigation schemes in Himachal Pradesh

337. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "H.P. irrigation schemes under neglect' which appeared in the Indian Express of 6th June, 1990;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what action Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) to (c) Minor Irrigation scheme are planned, designed and implemented by the State Government and do not require clearance or sanction from the Central Government. As such, the comments of the State Government were asked. It has been stated that State Government is already aware of problems/short-comings mentioned in the news item and are taking necessary measures in this respect.

Development of Nandan Kanan in Orissa as a tourist spot

338. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government propose to develop Nandan Kanan in Orissa as a tourist spot during the Eighth Plan period to attract more domestic as well as foreign tourists;

(b) whether any specific proposal has been sent by the State Government to this effect; and

(c) if so, what action the Central Government have taken to implement the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISRTY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Incidents of gold smuggling

339. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of gold smuggling cases detected by Government between January to June, 1990;

(b) how many cases have been registered by the Central Government during the above period against persons who were caught while smuggling gold into the country; and

(c) what steps are being taken to check gold smuggling?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) The number of seizures effected, the value of contraband seized, the value and quantity of gold seized and the number of persons arrested during the period from January to June, 1990 are given in the table below:

Number of Seizures effected	: Rs. 25,835
Value of seizures	: Rs. 315.22 crores.
Value of gold seized	: Rs. 86.59 crores.
Quantity of gold seized:	2566 Kgs.
Number of persons arrested	: 1524

(Figures are provisional.)

However, details of cases/persons arrested for smuggling of gold alone are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.